

Urgent Item

Legal and Property Services
Salisbury District Council
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Report

Subject : City Status
Report to : Full Council
Date : Monday 08 September 2008
Author : Principal Solicitor

1. Summary:

City status is granted by royal charter but can be lost through local government reorganisation. The 1972 Local Government Act preserved a city's status where there was no city council through the creation of charter trustees. The creation of a parish council for Salisbury will replace the charter trustees and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act and regulations made under it to date do not contain provisions to preserve city status in these circumstances.

Steps need to be taken to preserve the city status of Salisbury by applying to the Ministry of Justice for preservation of the royal prerogative. This may take some time to grant and it would avoid unnecessary delays if an application was made jointly by the Implementation Executive, Salisbury District Council and the Charter Trustees.

2. Recommended that:

- (1) Salisbury District Council takes the necessary steps to ensure that city status is preserved, including a joint application from the Implementation Executive, Salisbury District Council and the Charter Trustees to the Ministry of Justice for preservation of the royal prerogative to maintain the city status of Salisbury
- (2) Salisbury District Council officers work with officers from Wiltshire County Council to ensure that the Department of Communities and Local Government puts in place regulations to maintain city status when the Parish Council is formed.

Background papers: None

Implications:

Financial : none at this time
Legal : set out in the report
Human Rights : none identified
Personnel (POD) : none at this time
ICT : none identified
Community Safety : none identified
Environmental : none identified
Council's core values : provide excellent service
Wards affected : City Wards



Awarded in:
Housing Services
Waste and Recycling Services

